

► Gen. Abizaid Visits 1st Cavalry Division



By Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

U.S. Central Command (USCENTCOM) Commander Gen. John Abizaid meets with 1st Cavalry Division Commander Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli at Camp Victory North Wednesday. He used his time in Baghdad to visit with the 1st Cavalry Division, who took control of the Baghdad area of operations from the 1st Armored Division April 15.

F/202 Preempts IED Blast

By Spc. Andy Miller

122nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq- "BOOM!" The car exploded and there was nothing left but nuts and bolts.

It started out as an average day for Staff Sgt. David Jensen and Sgt. Bruce Hartman of Foxtrot Battalion, 202nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, part of the Illinois National Guard, attached to the 1st Cavalry Division. The past week had been rough on them. They had been involved in ambushes, attacks and fire-fights, but today was just another day patrolling the streets of Baghdad.

Then it happened. A broken down car was parked on their patrol route.

"There was something suspicious about it, and we try to check everything that is suspicious," Maj. Michael Kessel, the Fox 202 commander said. "If something doesn't look right, we stop and take a look at it. That is pretty much our [standard operating procedure]."

After driving by the dubi-

ous looking vehicle, Jensen decided to turn his patrol convoy around for a better look. His squad put up a perimeter for security as Jensen examined the vehicle.

"We were looking at it through the [binoculars]," Jensen said. "We got closer and closer, and we were checking every angle of it. I walked up, saw that there was a cell phone sitting on the dash and a package on the driver side and yelled out, 'get the [heck] out of here', and ran back over."

That was when they decided to call an Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) crew to the site to take care of the improvised explosive device. When EOD arrived, they noticed Hartman's M-14 sniper rifle and asked him for a favor.

"Hartman, was the sniper who took out the detonating device," Kessel said. "The interesting thing is, he's trained as a cook. It took two shots, one to knock out the windows, and then to knock out the detonation device."

Continued on Page 2

New Sports Complex Opens in Al Rashid District

By Cpl. Bill Putnam

122nd MPAD

AL RASHID DISTRICT, Baghdad, Iraq- A new sports complex opened here May 1 that will provide this district with something it's never had before; a dedicated sports area.

A few months ago this area was a large open field covered

in trash. Now residents of this area can play soccer, basketball and volleyball or play on playground equipment.

Almost 800 kids and adults swarmed the new Al Dura Sports Complex, complete with a regulation-sized soccer pitch, full-sized basketball court and new playground equipment, to receive t-shirts and calendars

from Soldiers of Company C, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment.

To mark the occasion, a ribbon-cutting ceremony conducted by Col. Stephen Lanza, commander of the 1st Cavalry Division's 5th Brigade Combat Team, and Sami Sharif, the Al Rashid District Advisory Council chairman, was held.

Teams from the neighborhood and the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps also played a game on the new pitch.

Soldiers from Co. C., 1-8 Cav., passed out 2,000 t-shirts that read "Prosperity, Peace, Iraq" on them and almost 500 calendars with art by Iraqi school children decorating the

Continued on Page 2

CG Rewards F/202 Soldiers 'Just Doing Their Jobs'

Continued from Page 1

With the windows shattered, and the detonation device destroyed, the scene was safe for EOD. They blew the vehicle up in place.

"After the explosion...we drove back and the car was gone," Hartman said. "The body of the car was gone, the frame, the axels, the motor, everything was gone. It was just nuts and bolts."

In an instant, what could have turned into catastrophe on a busy coalition supply route, turned into simple nuts and bolts. Jensen and Hartman were each awarded Army Commendation Medals by

Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli, the 1st Cav. Div. commanding general, during a ceremony that took place at division headquarters.

According to Jensen and Hartman, they were just doing their jobs. Its one of those things, maybe something you haven't been trained to do, but you step up and do it to the best of your ability, Hartman said.

"Neither of us are in it for awards, nobody is in it for awards," Jensen said. "At the time we didn't think about a bridge being blown up or anything. Just like any IED, it would have done harm to somebody."

Sgt. Bruce Hartman, a Fox Bn., 202 Air Defense Artillery Regt. team leader, shakes hands with Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Hernandez after receiving the Army Commendation Medal. Hartman, a trained cook, sniped the detonation device for a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device. His actions helped prevent a catastrophe on a major coalition supply route.



By Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

Cooperation, Safety Play Key Roles in Neighborhoods



By Cpl. Bill Putnam, 122nd MPAD

Col. Stephen Lanza, 5th Brigade Combat Team commander, and Sami Sharif, Al Rashid District Advisory Council chairman, cut the ribbon at the Al Dura Sports Complex grand opening May 1.

Continued from Page 1
pages. The Soldiers patrol the neighborhood around the complex.

"It's a welcome change, a good day," said Capt. William Privette, Charlie Company's commander, as he watched kids clamor for t-shirts from his Soldiers. "If we could have more days like this, it's going to be a shorter year."

Privette and the men in his company are down here in this neighborhood on a daily basis. They see the poverty, kids playing in mud and trash. Privette

said the new complex will show how "our willingness to cooperate and show a safe environment" in the short term.

"Which is every chance we can get in and get ahead of the insurgents in and around here," he said, "and show that message to the people, the better we are."

Standing not far from Privette was a man who wears two hats here in Iraq. Col. Kendall Cox is not only the commander of the 1st Cavalry Division's Engineer Brigade,

Continued on Page 3

Thursday

High: 93 Low: 71



Friday

High: 97 Low: 67



Saturday

High: 99 Low: 67



Reminder:

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 9

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Today in History

May 6

► From historychannel.com

1937 The Hindenburg disaster
1940 John Steinbeck wins a Pulitzer Prize for *The Grapes of Wrath*
1954 First four-minute mile: Roger Bannister cracks track and field's most notorious barrier
1955 Grace Kelly meets Prince Rainier
1972 South Vietnamese defenders hang on to An Loc
1992 Actress Marlene Dietrich dies
1994 English Channel tunnel opens

Cove Proposes Smoking Ban

► From *Killeen Daily Herald*

COPPERAS COVE, Texas- Venting some steam, supporters and opponents of a proposed no-smoking ordinance in Copperas Cove lined a wall of the City Council chambers on Tuesday, waiting for their turn to speak.

Eleven residents spoke against and seven spoke for the proposed ban on smoking in public areas.

Speaking against the ordinance again was Annie Hoffpaur, who presented a petition of 325 signatures. Hoffpaur said the council had received more than 1,000 signatures from her on behalf of people who oppose the no-smoking ordinance.

Charles Hix, owner of Lil' Tex Restaurant in Cove, told the council that he was afraid that after losing business because of the Iraq war deployment, his revenue would take another hard hit from a smoking ban. Hix estimated that he may be forced to lay off eight to 10 employees, if the ordinance has the negative effect on his business that he is expecting.

Speaking for the ordinance were several residents with histories of asthma.

Sylvia Barron of the Texas Department of Health also spoke in favor of the ordinance. Barron said nearly 53,000 people die every year from second-hand



Killeen Daily Herald

Eighth-grader Callie Powell climbs the 25-foot rock tower in front of Florence Middle School on Tuesday. The middle school students took turns climbing the wall.

Over 800 Al Rashid Residents Participate in Grand Opening



By Cpl. Bill Putnam, 122nd MPAD
Pfc. Dominic Carruth, a mechanic in 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, passes out t-shirts to some of the 800 people attending the grand opening of the Al Dura Sports Complex May 1.

Continued from Page 2
 he's also the division's Governance Support Team commander. The GST works with the Baghdad city government to facilitate projects like the complex, he said.

Standing and watching the soccer game Cox said the complex opening shows the people who live in the area that Soldiers really care about them.

"And that's probably the most important thing that they understand," he said. "We're not here to engage in combat operations with them."

The Army's focus in Iraq right now is to get the country back on its feet, reestablish the local infrastructure and have a safe and stable environment, Cox said.

"Personally, I think this right here shows we care about who they are as individuals, trying to provide for their opportunity to enjoy some of the things they do normally,

which is play soccer," Cox said.

More importantly the complex shows Americans and Iraqis working together, he added.

"We're partners, we're not their enemies," Cox said.

The hundreds of kids running around the complex with the t-shirts and calendars showed Cox the Army is making a difference here. If, for instance, no one came out to see the opening, then Cox said he would've been concerned.

But he said the sheer number of people out was testimony to the difference the Army is making in Iraq.

"When they come out like this and are anxious to shake your hand, and smile at you, they want to talk to you," Cox said. "It really tells me they want us here and appreciate what we do for them and that ultimately we're moving in the right direction."

Watching the game with a few friends was Tas Abaz, the supervisor for youth activities in the Al Rashid District. Wearing a green and red jump suit with "Iraq" stenciled on the front and an Iraqi flag on the back, Abaz said there was no sports complex here or anywhere in Al Rashid during the Hussein regime.

"These kids that you see around didn't have specific areas they could have fun and play sports," Abaz said. Resources for sports, he explained, were concentrated up at the national level for Olympic teams during the Hussein regime. There was nothing for the regular citizens. Now, the residents have something, he said.

"Iraqi citizens, they all love the sports, especially ... soccer," he said. "We thank the Americans and Coalition Forces to help us build this community."

'Spider-Man' to Adorn Bases in 15 MLB Ballparks

► From Associated Press

NEW YORK- Spider-Man is coming to a base near you.

In the latest example of a sponsor's stamp on the sports world, ads for the movie "Spider-Man 2" will be placed atop bases at 15 major league ballparks during games from June 11-13.

The promotion, announced Wednesday, is part of baseball's pitch to appeal to younger fans - and make money along the way.

But the move angered baseball purists, who believe America's pastime is selling out.

"I guess it's inevitable, but it's sad," said Fay Vincent, a former baseball commissioner.

These days, ads can show up just about anywhere in sports. Telecasts of major league and college football games, for example, include virtual ads visible just to TV viewers. College football bowl games are named for advertisers. Boxers' backs bear sten-



Associated Press

Advertising for the new movie "Spider-Man 2" will appear on bases

ciled ads. Just last week, a court ruled Kentucky Derby jockeys could wear sponsors' patches on their uniforms.

While commemorative logos have been on bases for special events such as the All-Star game or World Series, the Hall of Fame knew of no other commercial ads on bases, spokesman Jeff Idelson said.

The "Spider-Man" promotion has been in the works for more than a year and also will include ballpark events such as giving masks to fans,

said Jacqueline Parkes, baseball's senior vice president for marketing and advertising. The ads, about 4 inches long, won't appear on home plates.

"Spider-Man" opens June 30, and the weekend in early June was picked because it is during interleague play, which draws higher attendance than usual.

Baseball will receive about \$3.6 million in a deal negotiated by Major League Baseball Properties with Marvel Studios and Columbia Pictures, a division of Sony Inc., a high-ranking baseball executive said on condition of anonymity.

Ralph Nader, a presidential candidate and consumer advocate, harshly criticized the deal. He wrote Tuesday to baseball commissioner Bud Selig, denouncing the decision to have ads on uniforms during the season-opening series in March between the New York Yankees and Tampa Bay Devil Rays in Tokyo.

Today in Cav History



1966 - MG Kinnard relinquished his command of the 1st Cavalry Division in Vietnam to MG Norton.

1969 - The NVA hit the 1st Cavalry Division's LZ Carolyn and LZ Joe in Vietnam. The 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry fought the regimental size enemy force at LZ Carolyn while the 5th Battalion, 7th Cavalry fought the enemy at LZ Joe.

Scores MLB



AMERICAN LEAGUE

Boston 9
Cleveland 5

Chicago 6
Baltimore 5

Toronto 10
Kansas City 3

Texas 6
Tampa Bay 1

NATIONAL LEAGUE

San Diego 2
Atlanta 0

Colorado 2
Montreal 0

Philadelphia 5
St. Louis 4

Florida 2
Los Angeles 0

Cincinnati 5 (10 innings)
Milwaukee 4

Arizona 2
Chicago 0

TV GUIDE

	AFN ATLANTIC	AFN PACIFIC	AFN Sports	AFN Spectrum
18:00	Pokemon: Johto League Champions/ Jackie Chan Adventures	The Tonight Show with Jay Leno/ The Late Show with David Letterman	ESPNNews/ NBA Fastbreak	Masterpiece Theater
19:00	Jeopardy/ Headline News	Access Hollywood 19:30	SportsCenter	The Wild Thornberrys/ Spongebob Squarepants
20:00	ESPNNews/ Headline News	Psycho 3	SportsCenter	The Simpsons/ The Cosby Show
21:00	Friends/ Scrubs 21:25/ Reel Time 21:50	Police Academy 3: Back in Training 21:45	Totally NASCAR/ Baseball Tonight	American Idol/ My Wife and Kids
22:00	The Bachelor		MLB - Pittsburgh Pirates @ Houston Astros	The West Wing